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SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: NARCOTIC DRUGS

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its thirty-eighth session

Addendum

Annex III

ORAL STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF OF FINANCIAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT VIENNA

The following statement was presented by the Chief of Financial Service of the United Nations Office at Vienna to the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs before its consideration of the draft resolutions contained in documents E/CN.7/1995/L.3/Rev.1, E/CN.7/1995/L.9/Rev.1, E/CN.7/1995/L.18/Rev.1 and E/CN.7/1995/L.19/Rev.1.

1. Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the draft resolution entitled "Operational measures to ensure and strengthen cooperation between the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat" (E/CN.7/1995/L.3/Rev.1)* state the following:

"2. Requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in cooperation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat within the framework of their respective mandates and existing resources, to jointly provide to requesting States technical assistance in the training of judicial and investigative personnel, and in the elaboration of legislation and treaties of mutual assistance in criminal matters and of extradition, particularly in connection with measures already described in paragraph 15 to 17, 31 and 33 of the Global Action Plan;

"3. Requests the Programme, in cooperation with the Branch, within the framework of their respective mandates and existing resources, to jointly provide to requesting States assistance in the

*For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XII, section A, resolution 9 (XXXVIII), of the report of the Commission on its thirty-eighth session. For the discussion, see paragraph 162 of the report.

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prevention and control of money-laundering and the illicit transfer of assets, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan, as well as in other relevant United Nations resolutions, particularly in the following areas:

"(a) Introduction into national legislation of penal and administrative measures designed to identify and effectively control the laundering of all proceeds from drug-related crime, taking into account that the accumulation of illicit capital and the need to invest it in the legitimate economy constitute central activities of all operations in which organized crime is engaged;

"(b) Adoption of legislative measures for the confiscation or seizure of illicit proceeds, preventive measures designed to promote ethical standards in public administration, the business sector, financial institutions and relevant professions, as well as measures to foster cooperation between the authorities in charge of regulating the financial and economic sectors and those applying penal laws."

2. The activity requested in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, namely technical assistance, is mainly related to activities financed from extrabudgetary resources. Should such funds become available to both the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and the Branch, the requested activities will be implemented.

3. With regard to paragraph 3, since activities related to the prevention and control of money-laundering and the illicit transfer of assets are part of the regular activities of UNDCP, some of the requested activities could be implemented within existing resources. As for the 1996-1997 programme budget, although part of the resources required to support those activities have been proposed, the outcome of the proposal is still subject to the approval process of the programme budget of the United Nations.

4. Paragraph 9 of the draft resolution entitled "Measures to strengthen international cooperation to prevent diversion of substances listed in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and used in the illicit manufacture of stimulants and other psychotropic substances" (E/CN.7/1995/L.9/Rev.1)* states the following:

"9. Requests the Board, drawing upon the capabilities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, to collect information pursuant to paragraph 8 above, and to further develop and strengthen its database in order to assist Governments in preventing diversion of substances in Table I of the 1988 Convention, and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in discussing the control of the illicit manufacture of, trafficking in and use of psychotropic substances, especially of stimulants and their precursors, and in formulating policy recommendations in this field;"

5. Paragraphs 11 and 12 of the draft resolution state the following:

"11. Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Executive Director of the Programme and in consultation with the Board, to convene, drawing upon voluntary contributions from Governments, expert meetings in 1995 and 1996 of regulatory and law enforcement authorities of interested Governments, in order to discuss countermeasures against illicit manufacture of and trafficking in psychotropic substances, particularly stimulants, and the illicit use of their precursors on the basis of the study to be prepared in accordance with paragraph 12 below;

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*For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter I, section A, draft resolution V, of the report of the Commission. For the discussion, see paragraph 142 of the report.

"12. Requests the Secretary General, with the assistance of the Executive Director of the Programme and in consultation with the Board, to undertake within existing resources a thorough study on stimulants and the use of their precursors in the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in drugs, and to prepare a report thereon for submission to the Commission, taking into account any comments that may be made on the study at the expert meetings mentioned in paragraph 11 above."

6. In paragraph 9 of the draft resolution, the Commission requests UNDCP to modify the already existing database, through the collection, processing and maintenance of data listed in paragraph 2 of that resolution.

7. Since this is not an entirely new activity but the extension of an existing one, the additional workload and resources required for the (a) alteration of the present database structure and related system, (b) analysis and input of data received from Governments and (c) maintenance and reporting of the data will be absorbed within existing regular budget resources.

8. Should it prove necessary, redeployment of resources within the approved programme budget for section 14, international drug control, will be made to accommodate the requirements.

9. It should be noted that the existing database would be re-designed to incorporate the information listed in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution. This activity would require: six work-months of Professional staff at the P-3/P-4 level for the compilation, processing and analysis of the collected data, which is a recurrent activity, and the introduction of changes in the database programme pertaining to additional categories of information that need to be integrated, which would be non-recurrent in nature; and six work-months of General Service staff for data entry, output verification and data retrieval (three months non-recurrent and three months recurrent). Total substantive and technical servicing requirements amount to $81,000 ($49,900 non-recurrent and $31,100 recurrent).

10. The additional resources required for the activities called for in operative paragraphs 11 and 12 would need to be derived from additional voluntary contributions.

11. The Secretariat welcomes the statements made by the representatives of Japan and Switzerland with respect to paragraphs 11 and 12. Should the funds become available, expert group meetings would be convened in 1995 and 1996 to discuss countermeasures against illicit manufacture of and trafficking in psychotropic substances, particularly stimulants, and the use of their precursors. Should the funds not be forthcoming, the activity would not be implemented and the report to the Commission requested in operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution would not take into account the comments by the expert group on the study.

12. Paragraph 7 of the draft resolution entitled "Endorsement of the report of the meeting of the Working Group on Maritime Cooperation" (E/CN.7/1995/L.18/Rev.1)* states the following:

"7. Requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to convene, within available resources, a meeting of experts to develop training and technical assistance programmes in maritime drug law enforcement, pursuant to the recommendations contained in paragraph 9 of the report".

13. The full cost implications of the proposed meeting for the regular programme budget of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme are estimated to be $91,900 (see paragraph 16 below), which would cover the travel cost of participants and the preparatory work of the Secretariat.

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*For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter XII, section A, resolution 8 (XXXVIII), of the report of the Commission. For the discussion, see paragraphs 152-154 of the report.

14. The regular budget resources approved for the present biennium are fully committed to the implementation of activities already mandated in the approved programme budget. None the less, the Secretariat will endeavour to seek resources for the implementation of the recommendations in the draft resolution, to the extent possible, as a result of any eventual cancellation or postponement of programmed activities.

15. In the biennium 1996-1997, the possibilities of making resources available for the activities proposed will be investigated, following the approval of the programme budget and the start of the budget period. However, if it is not possible to secure the additional resources required, the recommendations will not be implemented.

Cost of an expert group

16. Assuming 12 participants for a five-day meeting at Vienna with 24-page documents in English, French and Spanish, and no interpretation, the financial implications will be as follows:

Section 14 (Drug control)	US$
3 work-months P-4	28,200
3 work-months General Service	12,300
Travel and daily subsistence allowance for participants	51,400
Total A	91,900
Conference services	
Printing	200
Translation	16,900
Conference services	2,500
Total B	19,600
Total (A and B)	111,500

17. Paragraph 2 of the draft resolution entitled "Integration of demand reduction initiatives into a cohesive strategy to combat drug abuse" (E/CN.7/1995/L.19/Rev.1)* states the following:

"2. Also requests the Executive Director to develop, in consultation with Governments as well as organizations represented in the Commission by observers, a draft declaration on the guiding principles of demand reduction, for submission to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session, and subsequently, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly for adoption."

18. Activities proposed in the draft resolution are related to subprogramme 2, applied scientific research, demand and supply reduction, and no provision has been made under the 1994-1995 approved programme budget in relation to the requested drafting of the declaration. However, it is understood that the consultations referred to in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution do not specifically require that a working group meeting be convened. Such consultations would be effected by other means, such as correspondence and telecommunication facilities, and the resources required to implement this activity will be sought from those already available.

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*For the text of the draft resolution, see chapter I, section A, draft resolution I, of the report of the Commission. For the discussion, see paragraph 54 of the report.